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The Honorable Alex Azar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

May 15, 2018

Dear Secretary Azar,

I write regarding the \$1.046 billion increase over Fiscal Year 2017 funding levels for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included in the FY18 omnibus and agency plans for those funds as they relate to gun violence research and prevention in Fiscal Year 2018.

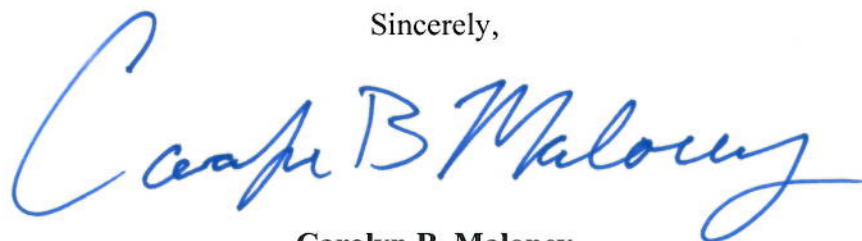
As you know, on March 23, 2018, President Trump signed into law an omnibus spending bill containing report language contradicting the so-called "Dickey Amendment" originally adopted in 1996, which had been interpreted as a ban on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funds being spent on gun violence research. The report language in the omnibus declared that the CDC is not barred from conducting research on gun violence causes or prevention. Furthermore, on February 15, prior to omnibus passage, you were quoted as saying the Dickey Amendment "does not in any way impede our ability to conduct our research mission. We're in the science business and the evidence-generating business, and so I will have our agency certainly working in this field."

Given both the clarifying language and the increase in funds for CDC, I respectfully ask for responses to the following questions:

1. How does the CDC plan to exercise its authority to use this increase in funds relating to gun violence research and prevention?
2. Specifically, what research in the field of gun violence prevention are you directing the CDC to engage in throughout Fiscal Year 2018?
3. How and when do you plan to make the results of this gun violence research available to the public?
4. Will the CDC be asking for increased funding specifically authorized for gun violence research in future fiscal years? If so, how much?

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to a prompt response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Carolyn B. Maloney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carolyn" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Maloney".

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress